



# Job Corps disABILITY News

December 2006

A RESOURCE FOR JOB CORPS DISABILITY COORDINATORS



## Developing Partnerships with Disability Agencies and Programs

As a disability coordinator, you are required to develop and maintain partnerships with outside agencies and programs that will help your center serve students with disabilities (PRH 6: Section 6.11, R7 (d)). Disability agencies and organizations can provide information, services, and/or referrals for Job Corps students with disabilities. Potential partner benefits include screening/assessment services, accommodation assistance, student and staff training (including technology training), career development assistance, and career transition services (including assistance with placement). *Center staff who already work with the local community (e.g., Center Community Relations Council members, Business Community Liaison, Career Transition Coordinator) should assume a primary role in establishing these partnerships.*

Wondering where to start?

### Centers for Independent Living (CILs)

CILs are private, non-profit, consumer-controlled, community-based organizations that provide services and advocacy by and for persons with all types of disabilities. Core services include information and referral assistance, independent living skills training, and peer counseling. Additional services are provided as needed and may include assistance securing housing/shelter, training (e.g., mobility, life skills, consumer information, community living), provision of personal assistive services, assistance with supported living, transportation, and individual and group recreation activities. Specific services offered to youth with disabilities include training in self awareness, esteem building, advocacy, and self-empowerment; and assistance in developing career options.

There are approximately 250 CILs nationwide with at least one in every State, the District of Columbia, US Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, and American Samoa. For a CIL directory, visit <http://www.ilru.org/html/publications/directory/index.html>.

### One-Stop Centers

Most centers already work with a local One-Stop center to help students make a smooth transition into the workforce. In many states, One-Stops have a disability navigator available to provide comprehensive services and work incentive information to people with disabilities. Navigators may be able to assist Job Corps staff by providing information on disability resources in the community, facilitating employment for students with disabilities, serving as a resource for understanding the impact of employment on the benefits a student is currently receiving, and providing information on other work support programs that serve people with disabilities. For more information about the Disability Program Navigator Initiative and a list of disability program navigator state contacts, visit [http://www.doleta.gov/disability/new\\_dpn\\_grants.cfm](http://www.doleta.gov/disability/new_dpn_grants.cfm).

### Vocational and Rehabilitation Agencies (VR)

VR agencies provide counseling, education, training, and job placement for people with disabilities. At the national level, Job Corps and the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA, the agency under which VR operates) have a cooperative agreement detailing how the agencies will work together to help people with disabilities obtain employment and live independently (see [Program Instruction 99-03](#)).

Each center should attempt to establish a relationship with their State and/or local vocational rehabilitation office's Job Corps liaison. For more information on establishing a partnership with VR (including sample center agreements) or a description of how some centers are working with VR, visit the [Career Development/Transition](#) or [Promising Practices](#) sections of the Job Corps Disability Website.

A list of state rehabilitation providers is available at <http://www.ssa.gov/work/ServiceProviders/rehabproviders.html>.

This article highlights just a few of the possible partnerships that may be established. For more suggestions, visit the [Disability Coordinator Orientation](#) section of the Job Corps Disability Website.

If you would like to share information about a partnership that your center has developed, please e-mail the information to Michelle Day ([michelle.day@humanitas.com](mailto:michelle.day@humanitas.com)). Selected submissions will be featured in the next newsletter.

## Job Corps Resources

### Job Corps DisABILITY Website

<http://jcdisability.jobcorps.gov/>

### Supporting Students with Learning Disabilities Website

<http://jccdrcc.jobcorps.gov/ld>

### Tips for Candidates with Disabilities Brochure

[http://jcdisability.jobcorps.gov/documents/GED\\_brochure.pdf](http://jcdisability.jobcorps.gov/documents/GED_brochure.pdf)

### Disability Posters

[http://jcdisability.jobcorps.gov/html/awareness\\_stereo.htm#posters](http://jcdisability.jobcorps.gov/html/awareness_stereo.htm#posters)

### New PowerPoint Presentations

#### Monitoring Center Disability Programs- The Role of the Project Manager

<http://jcdisability.jobcorps.gov/documents/PMmeetingslides.ppt>

#### Learning Disabilities and ADHD Presentation

<http://jcdisability.jobcorps.gov/documents/Slides/LDandADHD.ppt>

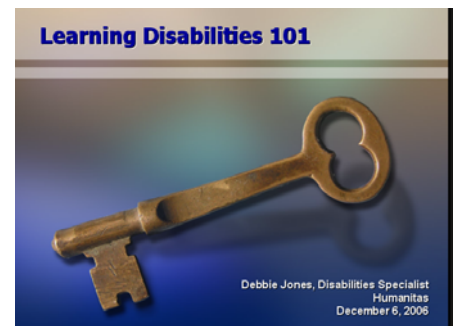
## Disability Webinars

Job Corps staff from many centers participated in the first of a series of disability webinars on December 6, 2006. During this webinar, *Learning Disabilities 101*, Debbie Jones, Disabilities Specialist, provided an overview of the most common types of learning disabilities and discussed general areas of impact, general learning processes, and accommodation considerations. This presentation can be viewed at [http://jccdrcc.jobcorps.gov/ld/webinar/ld\\_101](http://jccdrcc.jobcorps.gov/ld/webinar/ld_101).

Several exciting topics are planned for upcoming webinars. Topics include *Strategies for Serving Students with Learning Disabilities*, *Mental Health Disabilities*, and *Navigating the Job Corps Learning Disability and Disability Web sites*.

Webinars on health-related topics are scheduled for 2007 as well.

If you have a topic idea for a disability or health webinar, contact Michelle Day ([michelle.day@humanitas.com](mailto:michelle.day@humanitas.com)).



## New GED Testing Service Brochure: Tips for Candidates with Disabilities

The national office of the General Educational Development Testing Service (GEDTS) has developed a new brochure called *Tips for Candidates with Disabilities* that provides information for people who wish to take the GED test. This brochure provides useful information for GED instructors and disability coordinators on accessing reasonable accommodation for those students with disabilities who need them during GED testing.

The brochure can be viewed/downloaded from:

<http://www.acenet.edu/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Search&section=Tish&template=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentFileID=2011>

Requests for GED accommodation forms may be downloaded at from the GED Testing web site: <http://www.gedtest.org>.